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10/530,276	04/05/2005	Kazutoshi Aida	2005-0304A	3067

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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2627	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/530,276	AIDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael V. Battaglia	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 October 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-41* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *1-11 and 13-41* is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *12* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *05 April 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species A (Embodiment 1 of Fig. 1 and Pages 12-20) in the reply filed on October 5, 2007 is acknowledged. However, claims 2-5, 13-32 and 34-41, which are drawn to nonelected species, are **not** withdrawn from further consideration because claim 1, which is generic[1], is allowable (see below) and claims 2-5, 13-32 and 34-41 include all the limitations of generic claim 1.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On pages 2-12, removing the references to specific claims, which may change during prosecution, is suggested. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informality: On line 3, replacing "the signal" with --a signal-- is suggested to avoid improper antecedent basis issues. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-11 and 13-41 are allowed. In regard to claim 1, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction apparatus that

[1] Claim 1 is generic because the claimed "signal outputted from the pickup" reads on both a signal outputted directly from a pickup and a signal outputted indirectly from a pickup through another circuit element such as an AD conversion part.

reproduces information recorded in a medium, comprising: a pickup for extracting the information recorded in the medium and outputting the extracted signal; a sag detection part for detecting a transient state of the signal outputted from the pickup and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation controller for detecting whether the signal outputted from the pickup is normal or abnormal; and **a sag cancellation part for performing no correction of a transient on the signal outputted from the pickup during a period that is judged as normal by the sag cancellation controller, and performing a correction of a transient on the signal outputted from the pickup on the basis of the transient state detection signal outputted from the sag detection part only during a period that is judged as abnormal by the sag cancellation controller.**

In regard to claim 2, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction apparatus that reproduces information recorded in a medium, comprising: a pickup for extracting the information recorded in the medium and outputting the extracted signal; an AD conversion part for subjecting the signal outputted from the pickup to analog-digital conversion; a sag detection part for detecting a transient state of the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation controller for detecting whether the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part is normal or abnormal; and **a sag cancellation part for performing no correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part during a period that is judged as normal by the sag cancellation controller, and performing a correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part on the basis of the transient state detection signal outputted from**

the sag detection part only during a period that is judged as abnormal by the sag cancellation controller.

In regard to claim 3, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction apparatus that reproduces information recorded in a medium, comprising: a pickup for extracting the information recorded in the medium and outputting the extracted signal; an AD conversion part for subjecting the signal outputted from the pickup to analog-digital conversion; a sag detection part for detecting a transient state of the signal outputted from the pickup and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation controller for detecting whether the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part is normal or abnormal; and **a sag cancellation part for performing no correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part during a period that is judged as normal by the sag cancellation controller, and performing a correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part on the basis of the transient state detection signal outputted from the sag detection part only during a period that is judged as abnormal by the sag cancellation controller.**

In regard to claim 4, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction apparatus that reproduces information recorded in a medium, comprising: a pickup for extracting the information recorded in the medium and outputting the extracted signal; an AD conversion part for subjecting the signal outputted from the pickup to analog-digital conversion; a sag detection part for detecting a transient state of the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation controller for detecting whether the signal

outputted from the pickup is normal or abnormal; and **a sag cancellation part for performing no correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part during a period that is judged as normal by the sag cancellation controller, and performing a correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part on the basis of the transient state detection signal outputted from the sag detection part only during a period that is judged as abnormal by the sag cancellation controller.**

In regard to claim 5, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction apparatus that reproduces information recorded in a medium, comprising: a pickup for extracting the information recorded in the medium and outputting the extracted signal; an AD conversion part for subjecting the signal outputted from the pickup to analog-digital conversion; a sag detection part for detecting a transient state of the signal outputted from the pickup and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation controller for detecting whether the signal outputted from the pickup is normal or abnormal; and **a sag cancellation part for performing no correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part during a period that is judged as normal by the sag cancellation controller, and performing a correction of a transient on the digital signal outputted from the AD conversion part on the basis of the transient state detection signal outputted from the sag detection part only during a period that is judged as abnormal by the sag cancellation controller.**

6. Claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office action. None of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an information reproduction method for reproducing information recorded in a disk,

comprising: a sag detection step of detecting a transient state of [a] signal read from the disk and outputting the detection result as a transient state detection signal; a sag cancellation control step of detecting whether the signal from the disk is normal or abnormal; **a sag cancellation step of performing no correction of a transient on the signal from the disk during a period that is judged as normal in the sag cancellation control step, and performing a correction of a transient on the signal read from the disk on the basis of the transient state detection signal only during a period that is judged as abnormal in the sag cancellation control step.**

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Enomoto (US 5,999,510) (Fig. 1), Ogata et al (US 5,570,335) (Fig. 4) and Mita et al (US 5,497,361) (Fig. 1) disclose a sag cancellation circuit which corrects a signal transient regardless of whether the signal is normal or abnormal. Adachi et al (US 6,765,855) disclose holding a slice level correction amount at a voltage only when a signal outputted from a pickup has been detected as abnormal (Fig. 1).

8. This application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters noted above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael V. Battaglia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7568. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, A. Wellington can be reached on (571) 272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael Battaglia

/David Davis/
Primary Examiner
AU 2627